#### **Systems Support Division**

As a vital part of the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, the Systems Support Division provides materials and processes (M&P) support to Air Force product centers, logistics centers, and operating commands to solve systems-related problems and to transfer M&P expertise. The division is staffed with a government and contractor team experienced in a wide range of M&P technology disciplines.

Our expertise is provided to customers through:

- Collocated engineers who work in System Program Offices to provide directorate-wide support with design approaches, material selection, and production and operational issues.
- Field Offices (located at the Air Logistics Centers) with expertise in Coatings, and Corrosion, Nondestructive Inspection, and Advanced Composites
- Quick reaction support in response to customer requests (consultation, troubleshooting, materials assessments, problem solving)
- Frequent visits to identify issues where the directorate can provide assistance

In addition, the Division is active in:

- Developing and transitioning M&P technologies, in partnership with other divisions, which are needed by our customers
- Leading/coordinating directorate efforts in sustainment
- Managing AF Field Support Programs (ESD, Corrosion, Nondestructive Inspection, Composites, Coatings Integration)

This Division operates through three branches: the Materials Integrity Branch (MLSA), the Systems Acquisition Support Branch (MLSC) and the Logistics Systems Support Branch (MLSS).

This brochure highlights the capabilities of the Division in the area of Collocate Engineering.



## **Purpose**

To provide a quick response capability to address materials and processing issues during development, acquisition, production, operations/sustainment, and disposal of United States Air Force weapon systems through the engineering expertise of collocated personnel.

The Collocate Engineering Team of the Acquisition Systems Support Branch serves as the primary interface between the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate and Air Force Materiel Command Product Centers. This group of experts supports their customer through a broad spectrum of activities ranging from near term problem solving to developing materials & processes research needs for the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, as well as encouraging Air Force Cadets to meet future Air Force technology challenges.



#### **Capabilities**

Based on a mix of technical skills required, materials engineers are assigned to an Air Force Materiel Command Product Center. Our engineers have diverse materials expertise and are able to provide practical analysis and solutions to address complex materials problems encountered in today<sup>TM</sup>s Air Force weapon systems. This team provides direct in-depth engineering support, not only from its own assigned engineers but also from other engineers and scientists throughout the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate.

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JSF Airframe	F-22 SPO
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### **Summary of Benefits**

Our collocated engineers champion materials and process needs throughout the acquisition cycle of a weapon system - from initial system definition through production. Their principle activities include:

- Provide on-site materials, process, and manufacturing expertise
- Serve as on-site interface between ML and Product Center engineers
- Assists in transition of emerging material and processing technology
- Secure Directorate expertise as necessary and applicable to assist in solving production and operational problems related to materials manufacturing processes and environmental technology
- Advocate weapon system technology requirements to ensure that Directorate programs are relevant to current and future systems

The quick response capability of our collocated materials engineers have permitted Air Force Product Centers to successfully meet critical acquisition milestones for major Air Force weapon systems and ensured optimum performance and affordability of materials. Further, this direct partnership between the Air Force Material Command Product Centers and the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate has reduced the risk of incorporating advance materials.

#### **Point of Contact**

For more information concerning the Materials & Manufacturing Directorate, Collocate Engineering Section, contact:

Materials & Manufacturing Directorate, Acquisition Systems Support Branch at (937) 255-5063.



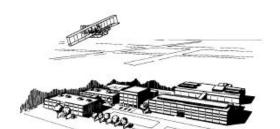


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# Air Force Research Laboratory

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